

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11394 131029Z

12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 /020 W
----- 049871

O R 131010Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3263
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS MOSCOW 11394

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, UR

SUBJECT: TOURIST VISIT, ATLANTA SKYLARKS AIR TRAVEL CLUB

REF: (A) STATE 190560; (B) HELSINKI 1715; (C) STATE 183981

1. FOLLOWING SERIES OF UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS ELICIT REPLY FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY AND INTOURIST, EMBOFF CALLED ON CIVIL AVIATION MINISTRY AUGUST 13 TO ATTEMPT EXTRACT POSITIVE RESPONSE TO ATLANTA SKYLARKS REQUEST TO FLY HELSINKI-LEINGRAD-HELSINKI AUGUST 14. CITING PROBLEMS OF COORDINATING TIMELY REPLY TO UNUSUAL REQUEST DURING VACATION PERIOD, V. D. SAMORUKHOV, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT TO DEPUTY MINISTER S. S. PAVLOV, EXPRESSED STRONG DOUBT THAT SOVIETS WOULD SUCCEED IN COMING UP WITH ANSWER IN TIME TO PERMIT ATLANTA SKYLARK FLIGHT TO TAKE PLACE. EMBOFF EMPHASIZED POINTS RAISED PARA 4 REF C AND PRESSED FOR FAVORABLE DECISION SOONEST.

2. ON BASIS PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH LOCAL BUREAUCRACY, EMBASSY SEES LITTLE HOPE THAT FLIGHT WILL BE APPROVED IN TIME PERMIT SKYLARKS FLY INTO LENINGRAD. GROUP MAY WISH CONSIDER ONE DAY EXCURSION TO LENINGRAD FROM HELSINKI BY SURFACE MEANS AS ALTERNATIVE.

3. WILL ADVISE IMMEDIATELY WHEN FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

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STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LANDING RIGHTS, VISITS, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW11394
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750279-0587
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750857/aaaabxny.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 190560, 75 HELSINKI 1715, 75 STATE 183981
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TOURIST VISIT, ATLANTA SKYLARKS AIR TRAVEL CLUB
TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, UR, ATLANTA SKYLARKS AIR TRAVEL CLUB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006